

Technology Facilitator Standard II Reflection

EDLD5370

I understand and realize the advantages of using technology in the work place. I am a bit amazed how far behind education is in utilizing technology as compared to business. It seems as if only recently has education tried to make a push for technology use. Younger teacher come to education with a sound basis for using technology, but the more seasoned teacher are more set in their ways and do not like change.

Most teachers use technology for grades, attendance, and communication (email), but only a few integrate technology into their daily curriculum. The challenge seems to come from change. In my school we have been very successful when it comes to TAKS scores, so many teachers don't see the need to change what we are doing since we are having so much success. Many teachers have established a system or method that they have used for years and feel like integrating technology presents too big of a change to what they are currently doing. Those that do try to integrate technology into the classroom are presented with many issues. "In the planning process, teachers must also consider how students will acquire technical skills needed to complete learning tasks" (Redish and Williamson, 2009). In my school keyboarding is not taught until 6th grade. This presents a tremendous hurdle for teachers to integrate technology when students don't have the very basic skills necessary. So when a teacher does implement technology, they may have to go backwards and teach some basic skills before they can teach their content. Individual websites for teachers has only been accepted by a few teachers and even many them do not keep it up to date. Even with training and professional development some teachers are hesitant. "Teachers often feel uncomfortable using computers and are unaware of the teaching and learning pedagogies that computers and the Internet are able to support" (Mouza, 2003).

Technology will cause a huge paradigm shift in education. It is no longer what can we memorize but what information can we find and use. Teachers must move away from conventional instruction that is teacher-led to a new method of instruction where students explore and teachers help facilitate learning. Students already use technology in their lives outside of school, so it is natural for them to use it in school. These students "represent the first generations to grow up with this new technology" (Prensky, 2001). This is why I often tell teachers to ask their students how to do a particular technology task.

On several occasions this year I have helped teachers integrate technology into their lessons, and most times the teacher are willing but struggle to comprehend the technology. I always leave them by saying, "just present it to the students, they will get it", and they always do.

Mouza, C. (2003). Learning to Teach with New Technology: Implications for Professional Development. *Journal of Research on Technology in Education*, 35(2), 272-289.

Prensky, Marc (2001). Digital Natives, Digital Immigrants Part I. *On the Horizon: The Strategic Planning Resource for Education Professionals*, 9(5), 1-6.

Redish, T., & Williamson, J. (2009). *ISTE's Technology Facilitation and Leadership Standards: What Every K-12 Leader Should Know and Be Able to Do*. Eugene,OR: International Society for Technology in Education.